

STATINTL

UNIT OF S. CALIF.
2 Oct 75

7 October 1975

*See
visits to
campuses
(for consultation)*

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Analytical Techniques Group

SUBJECT : Briefing at USC — Publishing and
Public Relations Opportunities

1. On 2 October 1975, I gave a briefing on our work to a small group at the University of Southern California. The briefing included a general overview of OPR, highlighting the functions of the International Functional Staff and discussing in some detail the projects being worked on by the Analytical Techniques Group. Present at the briefing were James Rosenau, Charles McClelland, Patrick McGowan and Richard Ashby, who comprise the behavioral/quantitative group in the USC School of International Relations. All participants expressed a strong and sympathetic interest in our work.

2. Rosenau, who is a publicist for the quantitative approach to the study of international relations, felt that the use of quantitative techniques in the Agency's political research is a significant development that should be better known in the field. He expressed an interest in doing whatever he could to help publicize our efforts. Specifically, the following suggestions were made during the discussion:

a. I mentioned that we were considering trying to present a paper to the next American Political Science Association convention concerning our use of Bayesian statistical analysis in intelligence forecasting. Rosenau noted that he is in charge of setting up the international relations panels for the next APSA convention, and that he would be happy to include such a paper. Although it was not specifically discussed, I am confident that Rosenau also would be willing to set up an entire panel on the applicability of quantitative techniques to government research. This would give us an opportunity to make a broad presentation of all our quantitative work, and to obtain input from non-governmental specialists concerning what quantitative approaches they consider most relevant to governmental research needs.

b. McGowan, who is editor of the International Yearbook of Foreign Policy Studies, indicated that he always has difficulty getting good articles on political

forecasting, which is one of the fields he likes to have represented in the yearbook. He said he would be happy to include an article from us on our use of Bayesian analysis. Although this was discussed only in the context of the Bayes project, I am certain the same would apply to an article on our use of the Gurr model. Re timing of such a contribution, McGowan said Volume III (1975) of the yearbook is now coming off the press, Volume IV is already fully committed, so our article would not appear until Volume V in fall 1977. He would need to have the completed article by summer 1976, and he should obviously be advised some time before that the article will be forthcoming. When I commented on the time lag prior to publication, McGowan noted that such a time lag now exists even with the major journals. The article by him which just appeared in the American Political Science Review was accepted for publication 18 months ago.

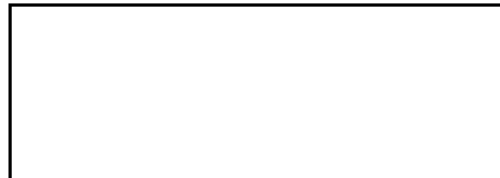
c. Both Rosenau and McGowan thought that International Studies Quarterly would be an appropriate vehicle for a general article describing the Agency's use of quantitative techniques for political research, and they felt there would be strong interest in such an article. This prompted Rosenau to volunteer that he would be interested in co-authoring an article with me, for publication in Foreign Affairs or Foreign Policy, on the contribution of quantitative methods to foreign affairs analysis in government in general, i.e., not just in CIA. I replied that I thought quantitative methods in government had not yet progressed to the point where we could realistically push for publication at the Foreign Affairs level, and that it also seemed inappropriate for an Agency employee to publish recommendations concerning how State and Defense should be using quantitative techniques. Rosenau agreed that it would be best to limit publication at this time to the International Studies Quarterly level, and a descriptive article covering the Agency's applications of quantitative methods.

3. McGowan expressed interest in the explicit, quantifiable data on attitude change being developed by our Bayesian projects. He noted that it would be very interesting to study what types of evidence cause (of fail to cause) analysts to change their views. Under what circumstances does an estimate get modified? It was noted that a study of this type would be publishable, and that it would fit in with work on attitude change being done by a professor in the psychology department at USC; I did not note the professor's name but could easily get it if anyone is interested.

4. Rosenau visits Washington periodically for committee meetings, with his next trip being scheduled for about 5 December. I invited him to come to the Agency for a day of briefings and discussions, and he expressed interest in doing so. Whether or not this will be during his December trip will depend upon other aspects of his schedule. He will advise us well in advance of any visit so that we will have time to set up a discussion agenda and send him copies of several papers to serve as a basis for discussion. If and when he does come, it is suggested that briefings focus on the work of the International Functional Staff, as he has expressed interest in this and I have already briefed him on the work of ATG. With respect to ATG interests, I would suggest that he be sent a copy of the paper on the Gurr model, and be asked to be prepared to comment on other models which might be operationalized in somewhat the same manner.

5. General Comment: My briefing was so well received, that I suggest such a briefing be made SOP whenever an ATG officer visits a university or research institution which has a group of people interested in quantitative techniques. In retrospect, I wish I had planned my Stanford visit to include such a briefing.

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TRANSMIT SLIP		DATE
		8 October 75
TO: 		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
<p>I think you will be interested in some aspects of Dick's experiences in California. I sent a copy to Lew and John. As you can gather from this memo, Dick is most interested in following up his contacts with pol. sci. practitioners.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 40px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"></div>		
FROM:		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION
FORM NO. 241 1 FEB 55		
REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED.		
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